THE NATIONAL TRIBUNE. (ESTABLISHED 1877.)

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SPECIAL ANNOUNCEMENT. MONEY sent us, otherwise than by registered letter,

postal notes, postal money order, or draft on New York, will be at the risk of the sender. AGENTS .- We employ no agents. THE NATIONAL TRIBUNE has many volunteer cancassers, and they are generally honest and faithful; but persons who confide their subscriptions to them must be their own judges of their responsibility. The paper will be sent

only on receipt of the subscription price. ADDRESSES, RENEWALS, Etc.-Addresses will be changed as often as desired, but each subscriber should in every case give the old as well as new address, In renewing, subscribers should be careful to send us the label on the last paper received, and specify any corrections or changes they desire made in name or ad-

CORRESPONDENCE,-Correspondence is solicited from every section in regard to Grand Army, Pension, Military, Agricultural, Industrial and Household matters, and letters to the Editor will always receive prompt attention. Write on ONE SIDE of the paper only. We do not return communications or manuscripts unless they are accompanied by a request to that effect and the necessary postage, and under no circumstances guarantee their publication at any special date.

Address all communications to THE NATIONAL TRIBUNE,

Washington, D. C. ENTERED AT THE MASHINGTON POST OFFICE AS SECOND CLASS MATTER.

WASHINGTON, D. C., OCTOBER 30, 1881,

To any person who will send us a club of ten new subscribers to THE TRIBUNE we will present a new Waterbury watch, inclosed in a handsome satin-lined case, and warranted to keep accurate time.

General Sherman on The Tribune,

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE U. S., To the Editor NATIONAL TRIBUNE:

From the nature of the articles published in the numbers of THE NATIONAL TRIBUNE sent me, I observe that it is published in the interest of the soldiers of the civil war. In this you have my hearty sympathy, and I will endeavor in my own sphere of action to co-operate with you in all practicable measures to that end, without money and without price. With great respect,

> Your obedient servant, W. T. SHERMAN.

READING. WINTER

NATIONAL TRIBUNE ALWAYS AHEAD.

Extraordinary Attractions Offered Its Readers.

We can say with just pride that THE NA-TIONAL TRIBUNE has steadily grown better every week of its existence. It has been enlarged, more columns have been added to it, more and a greater variety of matter has been given the readers, and writers of higher reputation have been secured for it. The subscriber has always been furnished a better paper than he subscribed for. The goods supplied have always been better than the sample. We intend to keep up this practice. It is our ambition to make

The National Tribune the Best Weekly Newspaper in the World.

The paper for the coming Fall and Winter rill be made

Unusually Attractive.

Good as it has been in the past, it will be made much better in the future. Among other desirable features we are now

arranging for a series of articles by

Prominent Generals of the Late War concerning the movements and battles in which they commanded or took a leading part. This promises to be the most valuable and interesting contribution to the history of the war yet published.

Griginal Stories.

It is the intention to have each week an original story written by an author of high reputation. All the different departments of the paper which have heretofore given the readers so much satisfaction will be developt to the highest standard.

Now is the Time to Subscribe. so as not to miss a single paper. Remember, The National Tribune Costs Only Two Cents a Week.

SPECIAL NOTICE.

All our subscribers should examine the vellow slip on their paper and see how the number found there compares with that in the head of the paper. If they are nearly the same they will understand that their subscriptions have nearly expired, and that they should renew at once. No one can afford to miss a single number of THE NATIONAL TRIBUNE, because if he does he will regret it. Send on your renewals at once that there may be no unpleasant gap in the receipt of the paper.

THE number of pension certificates issued and signed during the week ending Oct. 27. 1884, were as follows: Original, 763; increase, 715; re-issue, 108; restoration, 36; duplicate 39; accrued pensions, 106; total, 1,767.

A RARE CHANCE.

The most valuable of military works is undoubtedly the Rebellion Record, the official publication of the War Department. Volume one, two, three and five of this work are now out of print, but THE TRIBUNE has managed to secure a complete set (cleven volumes) and will send the set to any address on receipt of \$17. Address simply THE NATIONAL TRIB-UNE, Washington, D. C.

ACTING COMMISSIONER CLARKE. No man is probably doing quite so much for the relief and assistance of the ex-soldiers as Maj. O. P. G. Clarke, the Acting Commissioner

of Pensions. All that a man in his position can do to infuse greater energy and expedition into the business is being done, and wherever he has the power to shorten a method or hasten a result,-with due regard to the interests of the Government,-he does it. He is genuinely devoted to his work of benefiting the ex-soldiers of the country, and every night finds him at his desk until 11 o'clock, working over cases, to hasten forward their settlement. Among the many distinguished gentlemen who have been mentioned for the office of Commissioner of Pensions, none would fill that office better than he, and his accession to it would be an advantage to every soldier. If given in reality the powers of Commissioner of Pen-

BUNGLING OF THE SPECIAL EXAMINER SYSTEM.

The inclosed letter, which is meaty with meaning in every line, was received last week: SIR: In response to your letter of recent date relative to pension claim No. 296,394, of George W. Humphreys, you are advised that the claim is now in the hands of Supervising Examiner J. H. Carr, at Louisville, Ky., for special examination under the present system.

sions he would at once make such wholesome

reforms in that Bureau as would result in im-

mediate and wide-spread benefits.

Supervising Examiners have general instructions to complete, at the earliest practicable date, all work referred to them prior to July 1, 1883. This will include the case mentioned.

There will be no unnecessary delay attending the examination of this claim. Timely notice will be given by the Examiner when he reaches this In studying this matter let the reader keep

in mind that the best that the Pension Office can offer the anxious applicant is, that the Special Examiners have been instructed to finish up the work they had in hand on the 1st of July, 1883, or seventeen months ano! He Europe. does not offer any hope that they will be any they have been admonished that life is brief,-* they have already had in hand over a year | The pay of the private soldier, it is true, is

and a half-"at the earliest practicable date." What chill comfort this must be to the poor man who has now been for mouths and years prestrate under the blighting touch of disease: who, unable to work, has had to fight poverty for long days that gathered themselves into weary weeks, and the weeks into months, and the months into years, has watched every mail for the news that the Government has at last remembered the services done it in its hour of the man who rendered that service.

a pension is now in the hands of a Special Exmore no one can possibly know!

when, in the dim future, the Special Examiner reaches the case and passes upon it. It will only be an accident if his report makes any progress toward the settlement of the claim. Another Examiner may take up the matter after another weary lapse of time, in which the applicant has grown much older and feebler, and run scores of chances of dving, and go over lack of results. Instances are common in which summoning the same witnesses-or so many as survive-asking the same questions, and leaving the matter in the same stupid state of muddled inconclusiveness.

As organized and directed by Commissioner Dudley, the Special Examiner system has been mainly effective in aggravating the cruelties of the Pension Office methods of circumlocution. The Special Examiner has been another bewildering convolution in the interminable labyrinth of red-tape. He is another set of cogs and wheels in the multiplication of cogs and

sift and determine evidence, be in possession of all the facts in the case in a very short time, enable those deserving a pension to have at once the relief they are entitled to, and dismiss from consideration those who have no

just claims to relief. This is what will be done under the new Commissioner of Pensions. That it has not tions. been done-that it has not even approached being done-that the cumbersomeness and clumsy inefficiency of the system grew worse each year-is the strongest demonstration of Col. Dudley's incompetency.

POEMS OF WAR AND PEACE.

The exquisite little volume of Mrs, Sherwood's poems, under the above title, which THE NATIONAL TRIBUNE has now in course of preparation, will contain all the best known of that talented singer's stirring war lyrics. It will be got up in handsome shape, and sell for the low price of \$1. Every comrade should have one. Send in your money at once so as to secure an early copy.

BISMARCK's attempts to restrict German emigration to this country are only of slight avail. Up to the 1st of September this year the number of Germans arriving here was 111,235, against 119,201 for the same period of last year.

INEXORABLE death is thinning out the "Kunnels" and "Majahs" of the Sunny South, but in Tennessee they complain that "Judges" multiply like musketos in a rainy season.

DISCIPLINE IN THE ARMY.

The report of the Judge Advocate-General of the Army to the Secretary of War does not give very encouraging idea of the discipline of the Army. During the past year courts-martial have tried 19 officers, 7 cadets, 2,242 enlisted men and 10 convicts, making a total of 2,280. The number of trials by general courts-martial has been increasing from year to year for the last five years, and the chances for improvement in this respect are not regarded as favor-

The reforms that the Judge Advocate-General recommends are that the term of enlistment should be reduced to three years, with strong nducements for pay upon re-enlistment. Proops should be paid every month instead of every two months, as now, and half their pay retained until the end of the enlistment, with the interest paid as now upon deposits. A greater effort should be made to capture deserters, and when captured the term of their imprisonment should not be less than the unfulfilled period of their enlistment. The nonommissioned officers should receive better pay than they do at present, and soldiers should be relieved from the drudgery of common labor as far as possible, roads being made, barracks ers employed specially for that purpose.

We do not think that the Judge Advocate-General's recommendations go to the root of the matter yet. The change to make our Repular Army what it ought to be for the army of this great people must be still more radical than anything that he has suggested. The truth must be told that the dominating spirit that controls the organization of our Army is far behind that of any other civilized people.

For example, in any European army it is easier for enlisted men to become commissioned officers than it is in ours. In spite of our professions of democracy and equality, the gap between the men in the ranks and the men who carry swords is really greater in America than it is in the aristocratic countries of

The way our Army should be reformed is more expeditious in the future than they have | this: We have 25,000 men in the Army. There been in the past,-he does not even say that are at least 25,000 young men in the United States who are ambitious of a military career. that there are but few more years for any of and who would enter the Army if they saw as the veterans of the war, and if anything is to much chance of rising in it as they do by be done for them it must be done quickly. He entering merchandizing, or the professions, or simply says that they will finish up the work | trades, or any of the other vocations of life. rising beyond a Sergeant deters any young man of spirit and capacity from enlisting and takes away all incentive to remain by the flag and want, as well as physical pain, and who after he has enlisted. Even if he does get into the Army, he sees himself not keeping pace in promotion with his comrades who are in other

The plan adopted by the German Army and found to work admirably, should be made the need, and fulfilled its honorable duty toward | basis for the management of ours. It is this: Out of the men gathered into the German Army his honesty to the uttermost. Think of the poor man whose bodily vigor | there are a certain number of the best and succumbed to the awful strains upon it in the | brightest and most capable selected every year swamps around Vicksburg, in the mud and for Corporals. From these Corporals are se- this week, gets his money next week. But the sleet and snow of the siege of Petersburg or | lected the Sergeants, who receive relatively | man who 20 years ago gave the Government the starvation of Andersonville, whose life now higher pay than the Sergeants in our Army do, four years of faithful service,-who exposed is a daily battle with consumption, rheuma- and who are really the commanders of the his body to the terrible storms and miasma of tism, heart disease, or liver complaint, in Army, as they enforce discipline, drill the men, the march and the bivouac and the awful which the dread Destroyer is hourly pushing and do all of the detail of really managing shock of battle, -must yet wait for weary and his mines and trenches a little closer the cita- the Army. From these Sergeants every year despairing years before he receives that which del of life-think of this man who may not are selected, by competitive examination and is due him. He must pile up proof mountainlive a week, and who can hardly hope to live otherwise, a certain number of the brightest high of the justice of his claim; he must a year, being informed that his application for and most capable, who are sent to the military submit to inquisition after inquisition by aminer, who at this time is at least a year and From these are drawn the commissioned offia half behind with his work, and how much | cers of the artillery and engineers. The aristocracy of the country still retains the privi- itor of the Government has to encounter. Nor will there be any assurance of relief lege of officering the cavalry.

We could open the ranks of our Army to all young men, and say to them, "In time a certain number of you shall be promoted to Corporals, and out of those a certain number shall be again promoted to Sergeants, and a certain number of the best of those Sergeants shall be selected every year to be sent to West Point for thorough instruction in all that pertains to the same ground with the same disbeartening the theory of war and the art of making it on a grand scale." In this way it would be as it three, and even more Special Examiners is in France. There, it is said, that every have gone over precisely the same ground, French soldier carries a marshal's baton in his knapsack. We would say that every American vest pocket. In this way we would have our Regular Army made up of 25,000 young men of profession. It would be a great military school. Many of the young men after serving their term would return to private life and be a our volunteers in a case of emergency, and substantially every man in the Regular Army would be fitted to become an instructor and wheels that buzz on forever to apparently no officer of volunteers. Should a war arise and Rightly directed in certain classes of cases | ments, we would simply dissolve the Regular the Special Examiner can be of immense Army and assign its members to volunteer regiservice to the speedy settlement of claims. | ments, where they would speedily leaven the Going into a neighborhood he can summon whole mass of green, uninstructed men with the claimants and their witnesses before him, spirit and discipline they had spent years in acquiring. It would give a proportion of 25 in each regiment of 1,000 men, which would be sufficient to speedily infuse into the mass its desired military training and spirit. Then, too. the Army would be what it should be,-but what it is not now-thoroughly representative of our people and the spirit of their institu-

FILLING VACANCIES.

TO THE EDITOR: I know of no paper that so thoroughly represents the ex-soldiers of this country as THE NATIONAL TRIBUNE. Now, I wish your advice on the following: The Junior Vice-Com mander and Adjutant of our Post were absent for several meetings, on account of sickness of themselves and families. The Post, by a vote, declared their offices vacant, and the Post Commander appointed other comrades to fill their places. Now. is this legal? Can it be done, or can any punish ment be inflicted, even for an offense committed, without trial by court-martial? I hold that the whole thing is illegal.

Yours, in F., C., and L., LOBAIN, O., Oct. 13,

In our opinion the action of the Post was clearly illegal. Article VII, Rules and Regulations, reads:

ELECTION OF OFFICERS. SECTION 1. The Post officers (the Adjutant, Sergeant-Major, and Quartermaster-Sergeant excepted) shall be elected at the first stated meeting i December, by ballot, unless a ballot be dispensed with by unanimous consent. They shall be installed into their respective offices at the first stated

meeting in January following. At the installation of officers the Post Commander shall appoint the Adjutant, and, upon the recommendation of the Adjutant and Quartermaster, respectively, he shall also appoint the Sergeant - Major and the Quartermaster - Sergeant,

officers, whether elected or appointed, shall hold

office until their successors are installed. SEC. 2. In case of a ballot for officers, a majority of all the votes cast shall be necessary to a choice. If there is no election on the first two ballots, the name of the comrade receiving the lowest number of votes shall be dropped, and so on in successive ballots until an election is made.

SEC. 3. Posts may fill any vacancy in their offices it any stated meeting, notice of such contemplated action having been given at a previous meeting. This makes it beyond a doubt that:

(a.) All the officers of the Post, except the Adjutant, Sergeant-Major, and Quartermaster-Sergeant, must be elected at the first stated meet-

ing in December. (b.) The Adjutant must be appointed at the

installation in January. (c.) They are to hold office "until their suc-

The Rules and Regulations are silent as to how vacancies may be made. They can, therefore, only occur in three ways-to wit, by death, resignation, or the sentence of a court-martial. No authority can be found anywhere for a Post declaring a vacancy, or for holding a new election, except as prescribed in Section 3. All that the Post could do, in the case cited above, was to elect officers pro tempore, or until the built and other things done by ordinary labor- | duly elected officers were able to resume their

MERCHANDIZE VERSUS PATRIOTISM. Everybody, except an old soldier who has a just claim against the Government, can have it examined at once and the money placed in his hands with business-like celerity.

If a man has sold the Government a few hundred tons of coal or thousand barrels of flour he is paid in "spot cash."

Only the man who has given the Nation the priceless donations of youth, health, and patriotic service, is put off, delayed and worn out with senseless delays. If a man sells the Nation cloth for uniforms,

food for the army, munitions of war, stone for its buildings, or anything else upon which he makes a fine profit, he has no trouble about getting his money. His vouchers are promptly examined, his evidence of indebtedness receives full confidence and he gets a draft in full of all

It is only when a man has given that to the Government which no money can measure or pay for that he fails to receive the considerate only when his claim against it is a sacred debt more than the pay of a young clerk or an ap- of honor that he is treated as if he had disprentice, but the absolute impossibility of honest designs upon the Treasury which must be thwarted if any grounds for doing so can

Full faith must be given an account rendered for merchandize supplied the Government, and the dealer who presents it must be treated as an honest man unless there is evidence to the contrary. But the man who asks payment for a lost limb, destroyed eyesight, ruined hearing, or a wrecked constitution is regarded as almost certainly dishonest and is compelled to prove

The man who furnishes the Government coal or iron, or building stone, or stationery schools for instruction in the theory of war. Special Examiners and other agents; he must undergo ordeals at every turn and overcome obstacles at every step such as no other cred-

When the ardent youths were enrolling themselves under the banner in 1861, they little dreamed that the day would come when the preferred creditor of the Government would be he who trafficked with it in merchandize. They mistakenly supposed that their generous contribution to it of their young lives and vigorous strength would give them the first claim to its consideration and gratitude.

SALE OF HARPER'S FERRY. The parsimony of Congress has resulted in the sacrifice of the splendid property at Harper's Ferry for the relatively insignificant sum soldier carries a Major-General's stars in his of \$32,110. The sale took place last week, in accordance with public announcement, and Thomas J. Savary, of Wilmington, Del., bid off a military turn of mind, bent on learning their | the principal part of the property -- the Potomac water-power, said to be the finest in the worldfor \$25,100. The Shenandoah water-power sold for \$810, and some buildings and lots in corps upon which to draw for instructors for the town brought \$6,200 more. Strong efforts were made by officers of the Government and others to have the building used by John Brown as a fort reserved, but a plea of that kind did not receive much consideration from we were required to raise, say a thousand regi- the Southern Brigadiers, and the whole property was advertised and sold. It is understood that extensive car shops and paper mills will be erected on the property.

Harper's Ferry's history begins in 1794. In that year Gen. Washington visited it, and con firmed its selection for the location of the armory of the young Nation. The Government immediately secured possession of the water-power and about 2,500 acres of land adjoining, and began the erection of shops for the manufacture of small-arms. Here were made the old muskets which were issued to the troops at the outbreak of the war, and which kicked so violently that it used to be said that they were much more dangerous to the men who held them than to those in front. They were really a very good gun for their day and generation, but that day and generation were

Grim "Ossawottamie" John Brown brought the place into new prominence. Its stores of arms and its strategic importance as a base from which to start his raid against the slave power had attracted his attention when he was carrying on his warfare in Kansas. If he could get possession of the arsenal there, with its 100,000 stand of arms, at the head of the populous and wealthy Shenandoah Valley, full of stalwart slaves imbued with a desire for freedom, he could organize a slave revolt that might shake the whole system to the earth. The story of how he descended upon the village in the dead of night of Sunday, Oct. 16. 1859, with a force of 17 whites and five negroes captured the arsenal and the village, started a parie through the whole South, and fought the swarming militia with unquailing resolution until he fell under bayonet and saber wounds;

They shall enter upon their duties at once, and all has been often retold, and seems to gather in- the present century, has increased in populaterest with each passing year.

At the outbreak of the war Harper's Ferry was, with the great Navy Yard at Norfolk, a prize eagerly coveted by the Virginia secessionists. Gen. Scott had anticipated this, and sent all the troops he could spare to guard it-But these were less than 60, and he asked for the first volunteer regiment that could be retire, after setting fire to the buildings and cessors are installed "-i. e., until the following the machinery. Still the rebels found a vast it naturally follows that the soil under this the Queen of England, he felt as if he had a deal of very useful machinery uninjured by fire, which they removed to Richmond. They established a camp at Harper's Ferry, and conlike our own Gen. Halleck, always labored under the idea that the place had much more strategic importance than it really possessed and insisted upon its being strongly held. At that time, however, there was a political reason in addition to purely military ones, for a considerable force at the Ferry. It gave confidence to the Maryland rebels, and there was a possibility that a sufficient force might be suddenly collected there to make a swoop down on Washington.

It was evacuated when Gen. Patterson crossed with the Pennsylvanians into the Valley, to hold Joe Johnston in check while the battle of Bull Run was being fought. After that defeat the rebels reoccupied the town and held it until Banks moved out in March, 1862, as the grand right flank of the advance against Richmond. When that advance was driven back, and the rebels retorted with an invasion of Maryland, we had a garrison of 12,000 men stationed there. Lee divided his forces, surrounded the place and captured it, with 11,000 prisoners, 73 cannon, 13,000 small-arms, and a great quantity of stores. It was a wretched affair, on our part, and gave rise to much re-

When the rebels invaded Pennsylvania the next year, Gen. Hooker insisted that Harper's Ferry should be evacuated, and because Gen. Halleck would not agree to this, he resigned the command of the Army of the Potomac There were several little cavalry dashes and small fights in and around the place, and in all these operations it suffered heavily. The Government took no steps toward rebuilding its factories there, and so the town has presented a very dilapidated appearance since the Certainly something better could be done

with the property than to sell it for the relatively insignificant sum of \$32,110.

MEDICAL RULINGS.

Dr. T. B. Hood, the accomplished and able physician who is at the head of the Medical Division of the Pension Bureau, is animated by the sincerest desire to deal justly and generously with pension applicants, as the following letter of instructions to the members of his Division sufficiently attests:

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR.

PENSION OFFICE WASHINGTON, D. C., April 21, 1884. The Medical Referee desires to ask the attention of the Medical Reviewers to the propriety of greater liberality in the adjustment of claims. Instead of rejecting a claim if the evidence will perit, and instead of fixing the lowest rating the evidence will allow, exactly the contrary practice should obtain-that is to say, the highest rating consistent with the evidence, is that which should be

No claim should be defeated upon purely technical grounds-indeed all technicalities should be eschewed, and every claim should be measured by its merits-determined by a liberal construction

The law is liberal-intentionally so-the public entiment is liberal, and recognizing this to be true, no Medical Reviewer should attempt to oppose an illiberal view to such a state of lacts. Hereafter, then, no matter what might have been his course in the past, it is directed (and it should be understood that the Commissioner directs it) that the Medical Reviewers shall not look for medical grounds upon which to reject a claim as for medical reasons to deal justly with the claimant, and if upon all the evidence, lay as well as professional, a claim may be admitted there should be such liberal view as to allow the highest rather than the lowest rating which the law and testimony will T. B. Hood, M. D.,

Medical Referee. The letter and spirit of this communication leave nothing to be desired-except that the instructions be lovally and intelligently followed. If the Law and other Divisions of the Pension Bureau were equally liberal, the cause of multitudinous rightful complaints would be at once removed, and thousands of allowances, now caught and held on purely technical hooks, would be permitted to go through, to the relief of tens of thousands of worthy men and their dependent ones.

MAJ. W. H. CALKINS. The candidacy of Maj. W. H. Calkins for the Governorship of Indiana arouses the friendly interest of every comrade, for there was no better soldier than Maj. Calkins, and there is no better friend of the soldier. He has a magnificent military record, having enlisted in May, 1861, as a private, and come out in December, 1865, with a Major's strawberry leaves, and won every step by zealous, untiring service, and plucky fighting, wherever fighting was to be done. He was at first in the 14th Iowa Infantry, and subsequently in the 12th Ind. Cav.

After being discharged he began the practice of the law in La Porte, Ind., where he has ever since resided. His good soldiership and good citizenship made him deservedly popular with his neighbors, who in 1866 elected him State's Attorney for the Ninth Indiana Judicial District, then member of the Legislature, and then of the Forty-fifth, Forty-sixth, Forty seventh and Forty-eighth Congresses. From his entry into Congress he was one of the most untiring friends that the soldiers had in the House of Representatives, and no occasion when their interests could be advanced was let pass unimproved.

Personally, he is a pleasant genial gentle man, upright, able and energetic. His success will be welcomed by all who admire an earnest. honest, knightly nature.

A DYING PEOPLE.

The frequent assertion by scientific observers that the French people are really dying out receives additional support by the vital statisties for 1883. These show that the excess of births over deaths last year was only 96,843. This, in a population of nearly 38,000,000, is simply insignificant. It is the lowest increase for years. France, since the beginning of in any book published.

tion less rapidly than any other country, for while the population of this country doubles once in every 25 years, and Great Britain once in 67 years, according to the ratio of increase in France it would take over 200 years to of that war, these with the other Lilliputian double. The truth is that the people of France recognize that they have got upon their soil all it can possibly support, and they make is, they were made an integral part of the Emspared from the defense of Washington to be | child-bearing bear a relation to this important | pire, and given certain rights and privileges it sent thither. Letcher, the rebel Governor of fact. Not by drowning the girl babies as the is hardly necessary to define. The obvious in-Virginia, was too quick for him, and on the Chinese do, but by late marriages, enforcing tention of this was to make them, sooner or night of April 18, long before Virginia had de- celibacy in the army, and convents, etc. We later, homogeneous parts of the Empire. The cided to secede, sent so strong a force against it hear much of the thrift of the French people, King of Hanover, who was also successor to that Lieut. Jones, the commandant, decided to and we know that everything that possibly the Duchy of Brunswick, refused to recognize can contribute to the support of the family is | this arrangement, and protested against it inhauling away in wagons some valuable parts of turned to account. Even admitting all this, pressure must become less productive every year and less capable of supporting a population, which must diminish so that the country centrated some 2,500 troops there. Jeff Davis, | may finally be reduced to the present condition of Spain and Portugal.

THE CUBAN TRADE.

It is a pleasure to be able to note that the Administration is doing something practical toward developing our trade with the countries to the south of us. Last week Minister Foster signed with the Spanish Minister of Foreign Affairs a treaty which gives our people important advantages in the trade with Cuba and Porto Rico. Heretofore American flour has had to pay the Spanish Crown a duty of from \$6 to \$7 a barrel, and American meats, lard, kerosene, wooden-ware, etc., a tax of similar weight. This is one of the impositions that have made the Cubans so rebellious, for it was a direct tax on their necessaries of life, paid to s port a licentious court and a crowd of official leeches. By the new treaty these import duties are very much reduced, and there is a clause in the treaty that similar advantages shall not be extended to any other country. Minister Foster refused to sign the treaty until this was incorporated. We had an experience with Mexico in this respect that was instructive. After we had granted her important concessions, and received some favors in return, Germany came in and got the same liberal terms that Mexico had granted us, without paying anything like the price that we did for them. The new treaty will have an excellent effect in developing our trade with Cuba and discovery of several flowing wells, which, Porto Rico. The balance of trade has been much in favor of those countries, as we buy There is no improvement in iron and steel, about \$70,000,000 a year from Cuba, and \$5,000,-000 from Porto Rico, and sell the first only about \$17,000,000 a year, and \$2,000,000 to the

JEWS AS FARMERS.

No one is more conscious than the Jews themselves of the reproach cast upon them on account of their failure to identify themselves as other citizens of this country with all its interests. The efforts made by the members of that race to induce their people to embark in something else than merchandize have been persistent, and like everything else done by rected with skill towards achieving results. In Cincinnati, where the Jews are the most numerous and wealthy of any place in the interior of the country, there is a fund which will prowith transportation to the West, where he can its object the inducement of about 500 Russian Hebrews, who have emigrated to this country, to abandon peddling in the large cities and go West. In the address made to them they were told: "You will have hard labor as farmers, but in the course of a very few years you will come out all right. The best future for the Russian Hebrews in this country is for them to form colonies and become self-helping. It is gratifying to every American Hebrew to know that the Russian Hebrews want to help them-

CORPORAL TANNER.

Corporal James Tanner, one of the best of soldiers that the army had, one of the truest of comrades, and one of the most zealous of Grand Army men, has been nominated by the Brooklyn Republicans for Sheriff of Kings County. There is a majority of several thousand to be overcome, but it is believed that Corp. Tanner's unusual popularity in the community where he was born, whence he went into the army, and where he has resided since the war, will carry him through triumphantly, as it should. Corp. Tanner went out in Co. C. the benefit of future generations. Commander 87th N. Y., and served with his regiment through all the battles on the Peninsula and the second battle of Bull Run. In that engagement a piece of shell injured both feet so badly as to compel amputation, four inches below the knees, of both legs. Corp. Tanner has been a leading Grand Army man from the first, and for some years has been an active member of the National G.A.R. Pension Committee, Without any legs at all he ought to easily outrun all competitors who have the advantas

WINTER EVENINGS.

As the evenings now are long and getting too cold to be spent in the open air, some method of indoor amusement must be devised, and what more delightful way of passing the time could be imagined than in the perusal of good, wholesome literature! Nothing makes a nome more attractive to both young and old than for some member of the family to read aloud from some good periodical or newspaper for one hour or so each evening, and THE NATIONAL TRIBUNE will furnish that amount of reading for the insignificant sum of two cents per week-less than one-third of a cent per day. In it will be found matter to suit both young and old of either sex. The boys and girls can read the questions of their young friends of the Conversation Club, the farmer can get some agricultural hints, the soldier can fight his battles over again, and the busy house-wife can learn something more about household management, and all this for \$1 per year. The "Life of Gen. Logan" can be purchased for \$1, and in perusing the life of that distinguished soldier and statesman many a lonely hour may be passed pleasant, and in Rev. Mr. Pittinger's story of "Capturing a Locomotive" probably no more interesting matter, printed and bound in attractive style, can be found for the small price of \$1.50 than

THE Kingdom of Hanover and the Grand Duchy of Brunswick were two of the 39 States into which Germany was divided prior to the Franco-Prussian war, and when the German Empire was created as the result of the victory Kingdoms and Duchies and what not, were mediatized, as it was called at that time,-that variably until he died, and, as he was cousin to moral support which gave him a little stronger standing than any of the other little potentates who were made subordinate to the Emperor of Germany. He died, however, and his son was not allowed to succeed to the throne of Hano-

ver. The Grand Duke of Brunswick has also died, and a great deal of interest has been created during the past few weeks in regard to whether the son of the King of Hanover would be allowed to succed the Duke. It seems that he will not be, and the attempt is now to put a Prussian Prince on the throne, which would be a great step towards the more perfect assimilation of Brunswick and Hanover into the German Empire. Negotiations have been going on to bring this about, but the young, would-be Duke and King stubbornly refuses to waive any of his so-called rights. He will probably succumb soon, however, as the English show no disposition whatever to aid him in asserting himself.

THE excitement over the Presidential election, and perhaps other influences combined, still continues to depress business and paralyze the currents of trade. The Clearing House returns for the past week are the worst yet reported, and show a total decline in exchanges of 36 3-10 per cent. from last year, the bulk of which is in New York city. A very large movement of wheat and cotton to the seaboard is noted, but prices of these staples are a little lower than they were last week. Kerosene is a trifle higher, having recovered from the depression of the week before, induced by the however, did not develop as had been expected which is unpleasant to note, as an upward tendency in these metals usually heralds the approach of better times. Dry goods are dull and buyers and sellers are both acting with the greatest caution. The colder weather developed an activity in woolens, which the warmer weather afterwards checked.

In reply to several correspondents we will state, in explanation of section four of the cir cular relative to Soldiers' Homes, published in our last issue, that the transfer of pension certificate and pension money refers to original payments as well as the quarterly payments. that hard-headed and successful people, di- The Governors of the Homes are in the light of guardians to the members of their Branches, and there is no obstacle placed in the way of any well-behaved pensioner getting any sum of pension money that may be in the Treasvide every Jew who desires to go to farming | urer's hands, supervision being only exercised, as far as possible, to see that the money is secure a farm, and seed, grain, stock, etc., to properly applied and not squandered. There begin farming in good style. An organization is no desire to or object in retaining pension in New York City is doing the same thing. A | money except for the man's own good, and, if recent meeting of Jews in New York had for desired, the money can be applied for the benefit of the pensioner's family.

HORACE GREELEY once said, in discussing a matter, that "this, being common sense. is presumably not law." An excellent il-Instration of his idea is given by the recent decision in the United States Circuit Court, at Boston, that war service in the Navy does not naturalize a foreigner. Judge Colt said that the statutes provided that the foreigners who served in the Army during the late war were naturalized citizens, without any further steps being taken, but the Navy was not included in definite terms in the statute, so he would have to refuse naturalization. This is a case where the letter killeth; for the manifest intention of the framers of the law was to include all men who fought for the Union.

THE comrades of the Pennsylvania G.A.R. are at last taking steps to make practicable a proposition which has been mooted for some time, to the effect that the Gettysburg battleground should be purchased and put in such shape as will preserve the chief features for Dyer has issued a General Order requesting all Posts to subscribe for at least one share of stock of the Gettysburg Battle-field Association. If this is done there will be no doubt that the project will be made a success, and the battlefield be what it should be,-consecrated forever to the valor and patriotism of the brave men who struggled there for the Nation's life.

THE bulletins of the French Admiral in Chinese waters, put to shame even the fine intellectual coruscations of the early part of our war. He actually asks the world to believe that the French carried by assault "five casemated forts" and killed over 3,000 Chinese, with a loss to themselves of only 20 killed and 99 wounded! Admiral Courbet would make a glittering campaign liar if he were only where his abilities could have room to flower out.

QUAIL is no luxury with the Californians. for the birds swarm so there that the farmers want a bounty offered for killing them.

TRIBUNETS.

Norristown Herald: Prof. Milne, of Japan, says hat "last season was a comparatively poor one for earthquakes." He doesn't state whether they were planted too many in a hill, or the crop was damaged by the drouth, or the floods rotted the seeds; but we suspect the Democratic organs will attribute their failure to the Republican adminis-

Somerville Journal: Sweet is the voice of the maiden fair; Bright is the glow of the rising moon; Soft are the zephyrs that stir the air; Loud is the blast of the trombone's tune The maiden will sleep ere the morning gray; The glow of the moon will fade away; The zephyrs will die when the night is gone;

But the brazen trombone will still play on. Norristown Herald : Gen. Beauregard, in his artiele on the battle of Bull Run, says the South was not crushed by the North, "but it was nibbled away at all sides and ends, because its executive head never gathered and wielded its great strength under the ready advantages that greatly reduced or neutralized its adversary's naked physical superiority." Um! And all this time the North has been laboring under the impression that the Union

armies knocked the stuffin' out of it.